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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 97

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

INTRODUCED BY

DELORES C. WRIGHT

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TO STUDY THE
BENEFITS OF MULTITRACK, YEAR-ROUND EDUCATION.

WHEREAS, a multitrack, year-round school is defined as one that operates on at least three tracks, with one track not in attendance while the other tracks are in attendance, and one in which the operation of the school has increased the enrollment capacity of the school; and

WHEREAS, multitrack, year-round education provides calendar, curricula and family options that fit changing lifestyles, work patterns and community involvement for large segments of the population; and

WHEREAS, instituting multitrack, year-round education is one way to reduce overcrowding in school districts; and

WHEREAS, research indicates that limited-English-proficient

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1 students benefit from year-round education because students
2 demonstrably retain more information under a system of shorter,
3 more frequent breaks in the school year than they do by being
4 out of school for a three-month period during the summer; and

5 WHEREAS, research indicates that disadvantaged students,
6 especially, lose ground during this period; and

7 WHEREAS, multitrack, year-round education has been
8 associated with capital outlay cost savings, more efficient use
9 of instructional materials, reduced student absenteeism, reduced
10 teacher absenteeism and reduction in vandalism, burglary and
11 graffiti; and

12 WHEREAS, a use of a multitrack, year-round calendar may
13 increase a school's census by twenty-five percent to fifty
14 percent; and

15 WHEREAS, the process used to determine the cost-
16 effectiveness of a multitrack, year-round education plan is
17 complex and problematic;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
19 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state department of public
20 education, in cooperation with the legislative education study
21 committee, be requested to study the benefits of multitrack,
22 year-round education; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include whether the
24 costs of operating a multitrack, year-round calendar are more
25 than those of operating schools on a traditional calendar and,

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1 if so, whether the additional costs warrant the institution of a
2 weighting factor in the public school funding formula; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study and recommendations
4 be reported to the legislative education study committee by
5 November 1, 1997; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
7 transmitted to the superintendent of public instruction and the
8 director of the legislative education study committee staff for
9 appropriate distribution.

10 - 3 -

State of New Mexico House of Representatives

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION, 1997

March 19, 1997

Mr. Speaker:

Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 97

**has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it DO PASS.**

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel F. Vigil, Chairman

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 9 For 0 Against

Yes: 9

Excused: Mi era, Nicely, S. M Williams, Wright

Absent: None

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